

The Sacramento District Review

4 Lost Lodge Rd, Cloudcroft, NM 88317

575-682-2551

Volunteer Opportunities



Irene Scanlon, Forest Service Volunteer

- Jennifer Fink

Want to clear a trail, spend your days in the backcountry or host a campground in the mountains? Come join us! Being a USDA Forest Service volunteer just might be one of the most memorable experiences you'll ever have.

Working alone or with a group, USDA Forest Service volunteers enjoy work that matches their interests and schedule. The diversity of projects and positions available offers each person a chance to participate in an activity that meets their individual or group interests. Trail work, campground host,

fire prevention, information receptionist or assisting with wilderness restoration projects

are a few examples of what may be available. Other possibilities might include working in the field with biologists, botanist, archaeologists, recreation specialists or other personnel.

Stewardship of national forest system lands is everyone's responsibility. Public involvement plays an important part in managing these lands. The national forests, grasslands, and prairies are there for all to enjoy because many people have served over the years to conserve, protect and improve them. But volunteering isn't just beneficial for the forest, it benefits everyone. Simply put, it's

fun!

Why Volunteer?

Working with the USDA Forest Service and fellow volunteers is a chance to see what our national forests have to offer in a way that benefits both yourself and the forest. The commitment you make is up to you.

- It can give you the opportunity to pursue a special interest, such as bird watching or hiking.
- Develop or diversify your job experience and career choices. This can be a great opportunity to try out possible career paths!
- If you are retired or have summers free, live on a national forest while you work as a volunteer.
- Perform vigorous but satisfying physical labor outdoors.
- Meet people and form new friendships.



According to legend, if the groundhog sees his shadow on February 2nd, there will be six more weeks of winter weather. If he does not see his shadow, there will be an early spring.



Special Connection

Valentine's Day is for expressing affection; Fond thoughts are coming your way; We've always had a special connection, So Happy Valentine's Day!

Joanna Fuchs

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Volunteer Opportunities Cont...

• Spending time outdoors, enjoying the company of your fellow volunteers and visitors, can give you a new perspective on other aspects of your life.

On the Sacramento Ranger District we have been very fortunate to have many wonderful volunteers over the years. Our administrative department currently has two volunteers assisting as information receptionists.

Irene Scanlon started her volunteer work with the Sacramento Ranger District in May 2011. Irene assists with multiple front desk duties. If she is not assisting a visitor or organizing supplies, she's the friendly voice answering the district phone.

"I would like to thank the Forest Service for allowing me the opportunity to volunteer. I enjoy my job very much. I feel honored and privileged to

help those that do so much for the public. Again, I thank the Forest Service employees for their dedicated service," said Irene.

Judith Williams started her volunteer work with the Sacramento Ranger District in August 2011. Judith also helps out our front desk, and as an avid hiker is very knowledgeable about the trails in our area. Judith loves the great outdoors and has spent some of her volunteer time working to make our landscape look beautiful!

"I enjoy hiking and like to share experiences with other hikers. If I'm not on the trail, I'm forever talking about it. So serving as a volunteer with the district office has been a godsend. It was always my intent to give back by vol-

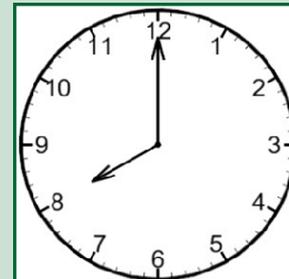
unteering after I retired, but I never dreamed that I would find a place so close to my heart," said Judith.

Both of these volunteers have proven to be an invaluable part of the district. The time they have given to assist the Sacramento Ranger District is greatly appreciated!

Volunteering for the Lincoln National Forest can offer valuable experiences and life long memories. Give it a try! Contact the Sacramento Ranger District for more information on what volunteer opportunities are available!



Judith Williams, Forest Service Volunteer



New Office Hours

The Sacramento Ranger District Office hours will change on March 1st, 2012.

The new hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday, closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Federal Holidays.

The Sacramento Ranger District Office is located in the Village of Cloudcroft, at 4 Lost Lodge Road, one mile south of Highway 82 on Highway 130.

YCC applications will be available at the district office on March 1st. Please call Heather Berman for more information at 575-682-2551.

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Evening Lecture Series



- Lois Cadwallader

Coming soon to your Sacramento Ranger District – an evening lecture series!

Have you ever wondered about the logging markings on trees, or how can you tell the age of a tree without having to cut it down?

Maybe you would like to know more about White Nosed Syndrome in bats. Or, maybe you are a rancher or permittee and would like to know how to run your own monitoring transects and analyze the data.

We are excited to take the opportunity

for the Sacramento Ranger District and other Lincoln National Forest employees to share some of the interesting aspects of the work we do on the forest.

The Sacramento Ranger District is going to pick some interesting topics for these presentations and jump in and give it a go. We also welcome community and visitor input as to forest related topics that people might want to learn more about.

The lecture series will be held on **the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm**, lasting for about an hour at the Sacramento Ranger District office at #4

Lost Lodge Road off of Hwy 130.

As the weather improves and spring nears, the lecture series may be adjusted to allow for more outdoor activities.

Presentations will include demonstrations and/or hands-on activities when possible.

The current schedule includes the following dates:

March 8th - “Fire in the Sandbox” presented by Jay Northcott

April 12th - TBA

May 10th - TBA

We will post information about speakers, topics, and times two to three weeks in advance.

Stay tuned for more details next month.

See you in March!!!

Slash Pit Update

The Sacramento Ranger District fire officials have decided to close the slash pit for the remainder of the winter season due to several factors. Due to recent heavy snows and mud on the roadway, access into the slash pit is exceptionally difficult.

In conjunction with these environmental factors the Pines Stewardship Restoration logging project is currently utilizing portions of the slash pit as a staging area for timber and heavy equipment, making access into the pit even more hazardous.

The Pines Stewardship Restoration Project is currently treating 156 acres directly north of Cloudcroft through logging and thinning of timber. All dead standing trees in the area will be removed, and living trees will be thinned which will improve the overall stand health, reduce fire danger and improve the aesthetic quality of the forest. For additional information please contact the District at: 575-682-2551.

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The Ranger's Report



James Duran, District Ranger

So what's happening on the Sacramento Ranger District? Many ask this question and let me tell you, our employees have been busy getting the new year off and rolling.

In the area East of Cloudcroft along Hwy 82 there are several forestry treatments in progress where local contractors are working to re-treat national forest system lands. Please be patient with the equipment and trucking you may see in the area.

The Mexican Canyon Trestle Vista project was recently completed and the forest is finalizing plans for a grand opening in the spring.

Prescribed burns are on the table and crews continue to make progress when climatic conditions allow for effective and desirable results. Many

of the burning activities bring great results for wildlife habitats that benefit many species. With the spring turkey hunting season near, those benefits may be witnessed during that harvest period.

Our fire organization is also preparing for the upcoming season. This means a great deal of preparation and coordination with other organizations to ensure we are all prepared and ready to work together.

Often times folks forget about the additional public services provided in permit administration. We continue to work with our special use permit holders to ensure permits are administered to standard and that new proposals and requests are supported.

Many grazing permit holders who graze on the national forest are meeting with our range department to ensure that another grazing

season is supported and planned.

This permit administration work is important to ensure that all the existing and future uses of public lands on the Sacramento Ranger District are authorized in compliance with the laws, regulations and policies that the USDA Forest Service is obligated to uphold for the American public.

In sharing this, my final thoughts are simply an appreciation for the USDA Forest Service mission and multiple uses. This concept supports a variety of public needs and I am proud to work for an agency that is truly in place for the benefit of all Americans.

We look forward to the spring season which brings a new set of visitors to the district to enjoy the area.

Write a letter to the Ranger

If you've ever wondered about timber harvests, endangered species, off-road vehicle use, or other natural resource management topics, this is your opportunity to get your answer.

Individuals aspiring to acquire knowledge about the US Forest Service are encouraged to escape the fast-paced world of technology and write a good old-fashioned letter to the Ranger.

If you would like to write a letter to James Duran, Sacramento District Ranger, please mail it to: P.O. Box 288, Cloudcroft, NM 88317.

